Unknown

From: PARNELL, S (GOV sponsored) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SRPARNELL1]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:28 PM

To: Sarah Palin

Subject: RE: Friday 8:30 p.m. - Rabbi Michael Oblath

Sorry, I don't know any of these folks, except the mayor...and we go way back :) (bad joke)

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thu 10/11/2007 8:43 PM
To: Mason, Janice L (GOV); Kim, Anna C (GOV); PARNELL, S (GOV sponsored)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Re: Friday 8:30 p.m. - Rabbi Michael Oblath

J- pls ask someone to jot a few things down for me then. I didnt know this was a speaking gig... with Mayor Begich. Maybe Ana could find a few minutes to do so?

I'll ask Sean P if he knows him also.

Also, i don't need two seats- I'll just hustle in there if my flt returns from Fairbanks on time, I won't be traveling with anyone, so don't want a seat to look conspicuously empty
Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----
From: "Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 17:41:03
To:Sarah Palin <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Cc:"Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Subject: Friday 8:30 p.m. - Rabbi Michael Oblath

Governor – An update for tomorrow evening - ANC welcoming of Rabbi Michael Oblath @ 8:30 p.m. 7525 E. Northern Lights Blvd.

They will have (2) seats set aside for you when you arrive. I explained that you would arrive @ approx. 8:30-8:45 p.m. depending on flight. This will last until approx. 9:00 p.m. There are three speakers during this time – Mayor Begich; Rev. Regina Boisclair will be welcoming as Biblical Scholar; John Ross – Head of Native Culture Center – Welcome to Native Community.

They will ask you to give short welcome to Rabbi Michael Oblath. FYI: Rabbi is not married; New to Alaska since August; this will be first winter in Alaska; Avid bicyclist and hiker.

Thanks, Janice

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:35 AM
To: Smith; Lynne M (GOV)
Subject: FW: Trade is Transportation Seminar - Mark Your Calendar

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From: World Trade Center Alaska [mailto:info@wtcak.org]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 3:31 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Trade is Transportation Seminar - Mark Your Calendar

Alaska Transportation & Logistics Update
Time: 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Location: Hilton Anchorage Hotel

10 October 2007

Dear WTCAK Member and Friends of the Center:

The response since we announced the upcoming **"Trade is Transportation Seminar"** h
exciting: transportation and logistics executives from across the state have contacted us
participating in this special event. We've also heard from business people who have local,
international shipping requirements. Economic development and government officials see
in the seminar have contacted us, as well. This is very encouraging and certainly reinforc
an event focused on the role of transportation and logistics in supporting international tr
business is timely and of significant interest to the Alaskan business community.

If you haven't already, be sure to mark your calendar for Wednesday, 7 November 2007. The seminar will take place at the Hilton Anchorage Hotel, getting underway at 8:00 am and running until 1:30 p.m. A continental breakfast will be served in the morning and there will be a luncheon to cap off the event. The half-day seminar brings together and features presentations by representatives of the state's major infrastructure facilities, transportation companies, and a variety of logistics services providers. It will also include participation by government, university and economic development officials.

The seminar will utilize a convenient format of short presentations by nearly a dozen official and executives. For anyone interested in recent and upcoming developments regarding Alaska's transportation and logistics infrastructure and operations, this is "can't miss" event. **In one place, at one time, you'll get the latest news and information from the people working to make things happen.**

A list of speakers and registration details will be available next week, but in the meantime, while you are thinking about it, take a moment now to mark your calendar and plan on attending this important business seminar.

We hope to see you in November at the seminar. For more information, contact WTCAK on 278-7233 or visit our website: www.wtcak.org for event updates.

Best Regards,

Greg Wolf
Executive Director

Visit our web-site www.wtcak.org

"Serving Alaska's Business Community Since 1987"

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:07 AM
To: Smith; Lynne M (GOV)
Subject: FW: Lumina Foundation announces next president and CEO

From: John Mutz [mailto:jmutz@luminafoundation.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:54 AM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Lumina Foundation announces next president and CEO

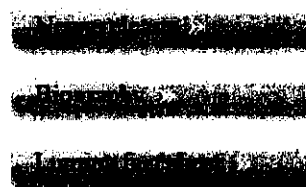
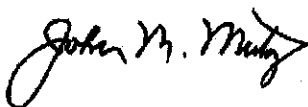
To view this email as a web page, click here.

10.11.07

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Lumina Foundation for Education, I am pleased to announce the selection today of Lumina's next president and CEO, Jamie P. Merisotis, a nationally respected expert in the field of higher-education policy.

Jamie has demonstrated a true passion for Lumina's goal of increased access to – and success in – education beyond high school. He was asked to lead Lumina Foundation into the next stage of its existence as a result of a 10-month search, which followed the retirement announcement in December 2006 by our founding president and chief executive, Martha D. Lamkin. Her vision and leadership during the Foundation's start-up phase as well as her commitment to the fields of philanthropy and higher education have been critical to Lumina Foundation's evolution in the seven years since its inception.

Select from the following menu to learn more about Lumina's next president and CEO:

In the years ahead, Lumina intends to more assertively promote fundamental changes in higher education that improve college access and graduation rates. The Lumina Board is confident no one is better qualified than Jamie to lead the Foundation. His experiences testifying before lawmakers have positioned him to lead aggressive public policy initiatives at state and national levels.

As founding president of the 14-year-old Institute for Higher Education Policy , a nonpartisan global research and policy center based in Washington, D.C., Jamie has built widespread respect among those committed to helping people realize their potential through postsecondary education. His work with the Alliance for Equity in Higher Education also has been critical to opening doors for minorities in higher education.

In a very high-profile way, Jamie will help Lumina advocate for a better-educated, civically engaged workforce to ensure individual opportunity – and our nation's prosperity – amid global competition. It's no secret the United States spends much more on higher education than many other developed countries. Nonetheless, our country has been falling behind for more than a generation in degree-completion rates among citizens ages 25 to 34. To improve America's standing, we must rapidly find ways to educate millions more students, many of whom will come from the historically underserved groups that are expected to replace Baby Boomers as they leave the workforce. Jamie is committed to the steps Lumina Foundation has taken, and he has firm ideas about how to build upon this developing body of work.

Jamie, 43, currently lives in Arlington, Va., with his wife, Colleen O'Brien, and their son, Benjamin. In addition to leading the institute, Jamie is chairman of the board for Scholarship America, the nation's largest private-sector scholarship and educational-support organization, and a member of the board of trustees of Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, where he earned his bachelor's degree. He serves as a member of the board of the National College Access Network. Jamie will assume his new role with the Foundation effective Jan. 1. We welcome his leadership.

Sincerely,

John M. Mutz

John M. Mutz
Chairman of the Board
Lumina Foundation for Education

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:30 AM
To: Smith; Lynne M (GOV)
Subject: FW: October 10, 2007 State Chamber E-News

From: Wayne Stevens [mailto:wstevens@alaskachamber.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 5:37 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: October 10, 2007 State Chamber E-News

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce

October 10, 2007 E-News

Alaska's Clear and Equitable Share - ACES - Community Briefing Schedule

October 5, 2007 - Juneau, Alaska - Governor Sarah Palin's oil and gas tax team will host a series of Community Briefings on Alaska's Clear and Equitable Share (ACES) plan. For more information about ACES go to www.alaska.gov and look for the ACES Link.

Alaska State Chamber members are encouraged to take time and attend these meeting to hear the presentations and become informed about the issue.

Hearing Schedule and locations

Friday, Oct. 12
Fairbanks
Carlson Center
2010 2nd Avenue
5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 13
Wasilla
Central Mat-Su Public Safety Building
Station 61
101 West Swanson Avenue
10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 14
Anchorage
Z. J. Loussac Public Library

3600 Denali Street
Wilda Marston Theater
2 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 15
Kenai
Challenger Learning Center
9711 Kenai Spur Highway
6 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 18
Sitka
Harrigan Centennial Hall
330 Harbor Drive
3 p.m.

Alaska Oil and Gas Association - AOGA website is resource for information on PPT debate - http://www.aoga.org/

The Alaska Oil and Gas Association created a special website to provide information and resources for use during the ongoing discussion about the upcoming special session. The business community in Alaska is concerned about the potential for increased oil taxes during the upcoming Special Session, scheduled to begin October 18. Throughout the upcoming debate, AOGA is poised to provide you factual information about the industry and the petroleum production tax, "PPT". Please visit their website often as it will be updated frequently.

The history of the oil and gas industry and the State of Alaska is the story of huge risks taken, incredible challenges met and the promise kept to provide a secure economic base for Alaskans.

No other state is more directly impacted by the oil and gas industry than Alaska. AOGA invites you to explore their site often to remain informed about the important issues facing Alaska's largest industry.

Alaska Airlines offers Constituent Savings

Special Session Fares for Juneau Legislature

Alaska Airlines is offering discounted intra-Alaska fares to Juneau for the 2007 Legislative session. Just book and purchase your ticket by October 22, 2007, and complete travel by November 19, 2007. To view the sale fares from your city, see the list below.

Seats are limited and may not be available on all flights on all days so book now for the best selection of flights. Additional restrictions apply, see below for details.

Sale Rules

- Tickets must be purchased by October 22, 2007.
- Travel must be completed by November 19, 2007.

- The following blackout dates apply: November 16-17, 2007.
- Tickets are **non-refundable and non-transferable.**
- Reservations require 7-day advance purchase.
- Tickets must be purchased within 24 hours of making your reservation.
- Tickets can be changed for a $50 (USD) per person change fee plus any applicable changes in fare and taxes on alaskaair.com. Tickets can also be changed via our reservations call center or at the ticket counter for a $75 (USD) per person change fee plus any applicable changes in fare or taxes.
- Standby for an earlier or later flight on the same day as originally scheduled is allowed with no additional charge.
- Open tickets and wait listing are not permitted.
- All fares are quoted in U.S. dollars.
- Seats are limited for these special fares and may not be available on all flights or on all days.

Fares are subject to change without notice. Passenger is responsible for the following taxes and fees, as applicable: Airport Passenger Facility Charges of up to $9.00 (amount depends on itinerary), Federal Segment Tax of $3.40 per segment (take-off and landing), U.S. Security Fee of $2.50 per enplanement.

All taxes are subject to change without notice due to governmental discretion. All taxes and fees shown below are in USD based on one-way travel and may be doubled if traveling round-trip.

ORIG	DEST	Adv. Sale Amt
ADK	JNU	$572.80
ADQ	JNU	$189.60
AKN	JNU	$224.80
ANC	JNU	$116.00
BET	JNU	$224.80
BRW	JUN	$256.00
CDV	JUN	$140.00
DLG	JNU	$224.80
DUT	JNU	$449.60
FAI	JNU	$161.60
JNU	KTN	$110.40
JNU	OME	$248.00
JNU	OTZ	$248.00
JNU	PSG	$96.80
JNU	SIT	$80.00
JNU	WRG	$96.80
JNU	YAK	$108.00

Alaska Statehood Commission meetings

The Alaska Statehood Celebration Commission is established to research, plan and prepare to celebrate Alaska's 50th anniversary of admission as the 49th state of the United States of America. The Commissions vision is to Honor our history, celebrate our future. They want Alaska's 50th Anniversary

Celebration to inspire the people of our great state, and across the world, to rejoice in Alaska's past, present, and future.

Melissa Stepovich, Co-chair of the Alaska Statehood Commission in the Governor's Fairbanks office would like to invite Alaska State Chamber members to participate in their committee meetings to plan the celebration of the fiftieth year of Statehood.

The next Alaska Statehood Celebration Commission meeting will be Tuesday October 30th, 2007 at 1:30pm in the Governor's Conference Room in Anchorage. If you cannot attend in person, the call in number is 1-800-315-6338, code 7450. For additional information or questions, please contact Marty Meyer at 907-269-7450

Alaska Energy Authority presents a Technical Conference "Alaska Railbelt Electrical Grid"

The Alaska Energy Authority invites you to a two-day conference for stakeholders and decision makers concerned with the future of the Alaska Railbelt Electrical Grid. Alaska Energy Authority has organized this conference to study the concept of an Alaska Railbelt Electrical Grid Authority to manage and dispatch electric power on the Railbelt Grid. The conference is funded by a State of Alaska Legislative appropriation.

Sessions Will Include:

- The Railbelt Today
- Lower 48 Grid Management & Regulation
- Railbelt Infrastructure Funding
- Future Generation & Transmission
- Potential Mergers & Coordination
- Current and Future Fuel Supplies
- Maintain and Grow the Grid, and more...

Conference Date & Time: November 26 & 27, 2007 ~ 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, Howard Rock Ballroom, Second Floor
401 West 6th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska

There is no registration fee for this Conference. Seating is limited. Register early!
For more information, please visit www.akenergyauthority.org or contact Jim Strandberg (907) 269-3029

Unknown

From: Meera Kohler [mkohler@avec.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 2:34 PM
To: Palin; Sarah H (GOV)
Cc: Notti; Emil R (CED); craig.campbell@alaska.gov; Campbell; Craig (MVA); Monegan; Walt C (DPS); Schmidt; Joseph D (DOC); Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Hartig; Lawrence L (DEC)
Subject: Ongoing Disaster in Kivalina - Need for Action

<<NWAB Disaster Declaration 9-25-07.pdf>>

<<Letter to Governor.doc>> <<Kivalina Emergency Transfer Plan 2007Oct9.doc>>

Dear Governor and members of the Disaster Policy Cabinet,

I apologize for the informal nature of this email, but I have authorized the commencement of an expensive project to relocate the AVEC tank farm in Kivalina, and in fact have received a "Kivalina Emergency Transfer Plan" (attached) from ADEC appropriating $25,000 to assist us in speeding up the fuel transfer if necessary. Of course, if the plan should be activated, ADEC has informed us that we would be billed for any expenditures they might make.

The crux of the issue is that significant expenditures are being made by AVEC to respond to this ongoing disaster and, despite the Northwest Arctic Borough's September 25th disaster declaration, there has been no action on the state's part other than the above mentioned action by ADEC.

By the attached latter, I am urging you to please take whatever action is necessary to assist AVEC and the community of Kivalina to respond to the untenable situation that we are in.

Sincerely,

Meera Kohler
President/CEO
Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.
4831 Eagle Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Voice: (907) 565-5531
Fax: (907) 562-4086
Email: mkohler@avec.org

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:32 AM
To: jonesdj@qis.net
Subject: RE: Other

Ms. Jones,

Thank you for your wonderful email!

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:34 PM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Other

Web mail from: Ms. Lynn Jones

address: PO Box 851 Finksburg MD 21048

410-861-8464

MESSAGE:

Dear Governor Palin: I would like to let you know what a wonderful vacation we had an Alaska and it was all made possible due to the wonderful and kind and generous people that are residents of Alaska. My husband and I spent the best three weeks of our lives in Alaska. We have traveled extensively and our time in Alaska was the absolute best. It is amazing how kind the people of Alaska are in their relationship to strangers. We were walking down a road in Fairbanks, basically looking for bears and moose, and a very kind elderly woman and her son pulled over and asked us if we needed a ride. THat was our first day in Alaska and our time in your wonderful state only got better. As we flew up to Coldfoot to travel back down the Dalton Highway to \"see\" the Artic Circle: our tour guide was absolutely the kindest and caring person I have ever meet (even when the moose decided it was better to walk in the road and not in the woods). The ride up to Chena Hot Springs was another day just fil

led with wonder at all the moose and beauty of Alaska. While taking our seaplane flight out to Ketechian to Neets Bay to see the bears, I was very aprehensive after the recent plane crash involving citizens from Maryland, but again the company was nice and considerate. Everywhere we went, the beauty of Denali/McKinnley/Haines/Teekeetna/ and all the towns along the Inside Passage was magnificant. But the kindness of the people is what I will remember the most. During these times of complaints and poor customer service, I can tell you that in Alaska, the local people put others needs in front of their own. The magnificant time we had at the Alaskan Culture Center talking to the native people and hearing their excitement in their culture, made a wonderful impression. THank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my experience from your wonderful state. THe people of Alaska need to be applauded on how wonderful they treat the tourist, but also how wonderful they show the beauty of th

e state through their actions.

Sincerly, Lynn M Jones

Dear Governor Palin: I would like to let you know what a wonderful vacation we had an Alaska and it was all made possible due to the wonderful and kind and generous people that are residents of Alaska. My husband and I spent the best three weeks of our lives in Alaska. We have traveled extensively and our time in Alaska was the absolute best. It is amazing how kind the people of Alaska are in their relationship to strangers. We were walking down a road in Fairbanks, basically looking for bears and moose, and a very kind elderly woman and her son pulled over and asked us if we needed a ride. THat was our first day in Alaska and our time in your wonderful state only got better. As we flew up to Coldfoot to travel back down the Dalton Highway to "see" the Artic Circle: our tour guide was absolutely the kindest and caring person I have ever meet (even when the moose decided it was better to walk in the road and not in the woods). The ride up to Chena Hot Springs was another day just fille

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state through their actions.

Sincerly, Lynn M Jones

jonesdj@qis.net

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:29 AM
To: 'kimlamer@hotmail.com'
Subject: RE: Labor

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 7:05 PM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Labor

Web mail from: Kim White

address: Box 13 Healy AK 99743

907-227-8298

MESSAGE:

Dear Gov. Palin

Paul F. Liskie ,Director Dept of Labor

Ms. Lynne Smith, Special Assistant Office of the Governor

Below is copies of emails between my sister and Alaska Mechanical and NOVA Gold in her quest to find out what happened to her son. It is perplexing that Alaska, MSHA or any of the other parties involved would have 2 fatalities in the work place and be allowed to defer their accident investigation to MSHA. Since this accident there has been other fatalities including one in Alaska, and the timeline for this is what. Are employers allowed to kill people and postpone accident investigations, or defer that requirement to a regulatory agency? Who is responsible for insuring these involved parties are accountable and what is the time line. Who is the entity responsible for insuring that the Miners Bill of Rights is upheld? How many more people are going to die before someone can answer my family's questions.

Please call me on my cell at any time 907-227-8298.

Original Message -----

From: Kurt Imig

To: Michele Kahle

Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2007 4:04 PM

Subject: Re: 7/19/07 Fatal Accident Investigation

Dear Michele,

I share your frustration with how long the investigation into the cause of the accident will take. I also understand your paramount desire for this information.

We are trying to bring closure to this matter for all involved but want to proceed with prudent actions. Your attorney visit and their actions last week are testiment to the need to proceed with caution.

It has been our stated course of action from the beginning to wait for the regulatory process to proceed as required and we do not wish to impede that process in any manner.

I am not familiar with the Minor\'s Bill of Rights and neither is our counsel. Irrespective of what it says, when the regulatory process is completed, you or your lawyer will be provided with all the information and conclusions we are provided with. I understand Mr. Tulin, your family lawyer, already has obtained as much or more than we have gotten. As you know, he has also had experts inspect and test the manlift.

As you pursue your various course of actions there will be some that AMI and I personally can help you with but others by their regulatory or legal nature will be outside of our control.

Sincerely,

Kurt

-----Original Message-----

From: \"Michele Kahle\" <michelekahle@verizon.net>

To: <kurt@ami-alaska.com>

Cc: <Franklin.Micheal@DOL.GOV>, \"Andrew Heycock\" <andrew.heycock.consultant@novagold.net>, <ftorres@ami-alaska.com>

Date: Sun, 07 Oct 2007 09:37:17 -0500

Subject: 7/19/07 Fatal Accident Investigation

From: Thomas J. & Michele S. Kahle

525 Theiler Drive

Tomahawk, WI 54487

(715) 453-8921 (H)

(715) 453-6008 (W)

(715) 966-6085 (C)

To: Attn: Kurt Imig, CFO

Alaska Mechanical Inc.

RE: 7/19/07 Fatal Accident Investigation-Rock Creek Mine, Nome AK

Dear Kurt:

It has been 80 days since our son\'s death, yet we still have not been provided any answers as to the cause from AMI, AGC or MSHA. The standard reply to our inquiries has been \"we are waiting on the MSHA report\". It appears that all other parties have been privy to much more information then the victim\'s families. Certainly you do not expect us to believe, nor would you want MSHA to believe that AMI has ceded its responsibility for investigating this fatal accident entirely to MSHA, if for no other reason than to prevent another one and to prevent a potentially dangerous piece of equipment from making it\'s way back into the workplace somehow. Responding to our inquiries with \"we are waiting for the MSHA report\" is no longer acceptable.

Please let this correspondence serve as our official request, as per the Minor\'s Bill of Rights, Section 103 (d), for copies of all records, including pictures, emails, correspondence, and equipment maintenance & certification records, that were used to investigate this accident and to determine the the cause and any contributing factors. In your response also includes copies of pictures and any other supporting documentation to prove or disprove your conclusions as to the root cause.

Your prompt attention to this request would be appreciated. To avoid any longer delays please provide the requested information via email, if available in that format to michelekahle@verizon.net

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michele Kahle

CC:

Franklin.Micheal@DOL.GOV

andrew.heycock.consultant@noagold.net

ftorres@ami-alaska.com

Original Message -----

From: Doug Nicholson

To: Michele Kahle

Cc: Andrew Heycock ; Franklin.Micheal@DOl.GOV

Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 7:23 PM

Subject: RE: Correspondence to Kurt Imig

Dear Ms. Kahle,

Let me start by expressing my sincere condolences for your loss. The accident and the loss have deeply affected those on site and the Management of Alaska Gold Company and Novagold Resources, Inc.

I received two e-mails from you on Tuesday, October 9, regarding correspondence between yourself and Kurt Imig of Alaska Mechanical, Inc. ("AMI"). In the first you made a request to AMI for information regarding your son\'s death on July 19, 2007, at the Rock Creek Mine - including "copies of all records, including pictures, emails, correspondence, and equipment maintenance & certification records, that were used to investigate this accident and to determine the cause and any contributing factors" - pursuant to the "Minor \'s Bill of Rights, Section 103 (d)." In the second you forwarded Mr. Imig's response, in which he declined to provide further information, and therefore you have requested Alaska Gold Company ("AGC") to provide that information.

I understand your reference to \"the Minor\'s Bill of Rights, Section 103(d)\" to mean Section 103(d) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act. As the employer of your son, AMI is the \"operator\" referred to in the Mine Act, and so AMI is the company that is required to conduct the investigation and prepare the report required by 30 CFR Section 50.11. AMI should be aware of their obligation to conduct a thorough investigation and prepare the required report. There is, however, no statutory or regulatory deadline by which AMI must complete the investigatory process.

I appreciate and understand your desire for additional information relating to your son's death. AGC is also very interested in reviewing the investigation reports prepared by MSHA and by AMI. It is our understanding, however, that neither MSHA nor AMI has completed their accident investigations at this time. While the lack of information can be frustrating, it is important to allow the investigators the time they need to prepare a thorough report. Moreover, some accidents, such as this one, are more complicated than others and will, by their very nature, require a greater amount of time to investigate. Because the investigations are not yet concluded, however, the information you requested is not presently available to AGC.

I note that Kurt Imig stated AMI will provide you with the information and conclusions that they have when those are available. It is our understanding that MSHA will also provide a copy of its accident report to you upon completion of their investigation.

Please let me know if there is any other way in which we can help.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Nicholson

Vice President/General Manager

NovaGold Alaska Inc./Alaska Gold Company

Tel: (907) 374-8862

Mobile: (907) 978-9462

Fax: (509) 267-7779

From: Michele Kahle [mailto:michelekahle@verizon.net]

Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2007 6:41 PM

To: Doug Nicholson

Cc: Andrew Heycock; Franklin.Micheal@DOl.GOV

Subject: Fw: Correspondence to Kurt Imig

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

I am forwarding you an, email sent to Kurt Imig, AMI, requesting information concerning our sons death on 7/19/07 at the Rock Creek Mine. He has no knowledge of the Minor\'s Bill of Rights so we are forwarding our request to you for action, along with Kurt\'s response.

Thank you for your assistance.

Michele Kahle

Dear Gov. Palin

Paul F. Liskie ,Director Dept of Labor

Ms. Lynne Smith, Special Assistant Office of the Governor

Below is copies of emails between my sister and Alaska Mechanical and NOVA Gold in her quest to find out what happened to her son. It is perplexing that Alaska, MSHA or any of the other parties involved would have 2 fatalities in the work place and be allowed to defer their accident investigation to MSHA. Since this accident there has been other fatalities including one in Alaska, and the timeline for this is what. Are employers allowed to kill people and postpone accident investigations, or defer that requirement to a regulatory agency? Who is responsible for insuring these involved parties are accountable and what is the time line. Who is the entity responsible for insuring that the Miners Bill of Rights is upheld? How many more people are going to die before someone can answer my family's questions.

Please call me on my cell at any time 907-227-8298.

Original Message -----

From: Kurt Imig

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Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2007 4:04 PM

Subject: Re: 7/19/07 Fatal Accident Investigation

Dear Michele,

I share your frustration with how long the investigation into the cause of the accident will take. I also understand your paramount desire for this information.

We are trying to bring closure to this matter for all involved but want to proceed with prudent actions. Your attorney visit and their actions last week are testiment to the need to proceed with caution.

It has been our stated course of action from the beginning to wait for the regulatory process to proceed as required and we do not wish to impede that process in any manner.

I am not familiar with the Minor's Bill of Rights and neither is our counsel. Irrespective of what it says, when the regulatory process is completed, you or your lawyer will be provided with all the information and conclusions we are provided with. I understand Mr. Tulin, your family lawyer, already has obtained as much or more than we have gotten. As you know, he has also had experts inspect and test the manlift.

As you pursue your various course of actions there will be some that AMI and I personally can help you with but others by their regulatory or legal nature will be outside of our control.

Sincerely,

Kurt

-----Original Message-----

From: "Michele Kahle" <michelekahle@verizon.net>

To: <kurt@ami-alaska.com>

Cc: <Franklin.Micheal@DOL.GOV>, "Andrew Heycock" <andrew.heycock.consultant@novagold.net>, <ftorres@ami-alaska.com>

Date: Sun, 07 Oct 2007 09:37:17 -0500

Subject: 7/19/07 Fatal Accident Investigation

From: Thomas J. & Michele S. Kahle

525 Theiler Drive

Tomahawk, WI 54487

(715) 453-8921 (H)

(715) 453-6008 (W)

(715) 966-6085 (C)

To: Attn: Kurt Imig, CFO

Alaska Mechanical Inc.

RE: 7/19/07 Fatal Accident Investigation-Rock Creek Mine, Nome AK

Dear Kurt:

It has been 80 days since our son's death, yet we still have not been provided any answers as to the cause from AMI, AGC or MSHA. The standard reply to our inquiries has been "we are waiting on the MSHA report". It appears that all other parties have been privy to much more information then the victim's families. Certainly you do not expect us to believe, nor would you want MSHA to believe that AMI has ceded its responsibility for

investigating this fatal accident entirely to MSHA, if for no other reason than to prevent another one and to prevent a potentially dangerous piece of equipment from making it's way back into the workplace somehow. Responding to our inquiries with "we are waiting for the MSHA report" is no longer acceptable.

Please let this correspondence serve as our official request, as per the Minor's Bill of Rights, Section 103 (d), for copies of all records, including pictures, emails, correspondence, and equipment maintenance & certification records, that were used to investigate this accident and to determine the the cause and any contributing factors. In your response also includes copies of pictures and any other supporting documentation to prove or disprove your conclusions as to the root cause.

Your prompt attention to this request would be appreciated. To avoid any longer delays please provide the requested information via email, if available in that format to michelekahle@verizon.net

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michele Kahle

CC:

Franklin.Micheal@DOL.GOV

andrew.heycock.consultant@noagold.net

ftorres@ami-alaska.com

Original Message -----

From: Doug Nicholson

To: Michele Kahle

Cc: Andrew Heycock ; Franklin.Micheal@DOl.GOV

Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 7:23 PM

Subject: RE: Correspondence to Kurt Imig

Dear Ms. Kahle,

Let me start by expressing my sincere condolences for your loss. The accident and the loss have deeply affected those on site and the Management of Alaska Gold Company and Novagold Resources, Inc.

I received two e-mails from you on Tuesday, October 9, regarding correspondence between yourself and Kurt Imig of Alaska Mechanical, Inc. ("AMI"). In the first you made a request to AMI for information regarding your son's death on July 19, 2007, at the Rock Creek Mine - including "copies of all records, including pictures, emails, correspondence, and equipment maintenance & certification records, that were used to investigate this

accident and to determine the cause and any contributing factors" - pursuant to the "Minor's Bill of Rights, Section 103 (d)." In the second you forwarded Mr. Imig's response, in which he declined to provide further information, and therefore you have requested Alaska Gold Company ("AGC") to provide that information.

I understand your reference to "the Minor's Bill of Rights, Section 103(d)" to mean Section 103(d) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act. As the employer of your son, AMI is the "operator" referred to in the Mine Act, and so AMI is the company that is required to conduct the investigation and prepare the report required by 30 CFR Section 50.11. AMI should be aware of their obligation to conduct a thorough investigation and prepare the required report. There is, however, no statutory or regulatory deadline by which AMI must complete the investigatory process.

I appreciate and understand your desire for additional information relating to your son's death. AGC is also very interested in reviewing the investigation reports prepared by MSHA and by AMI. It is our understanding, however, that neither MSHA nor AMI has completed their accident investigations at this time. While the lack of information can be frustrating, it is important to allow the investigators the time they need to prepare a thorough report. Moreover, some accidents, such as this one, are more complicated than others and will, by their very nature, require a greater amount of time to investigate. Because the investigations are not yet concluded, however, the information you requested is not presently available to AGC.

I note that Kurt Imig stated AMI will provide you with the information and conclusions that they have when those are available. It is our understanding that MSHA will also provide a copy of its accident report to you upon completion of their investigation.

Please let me know if there is any other way in which we can help.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Nicholson

Vice President/General Manager

NovaGold Alaska Inc./Alaska Gold Company

Tel: (907) 374-8862

Mobile: (907) 978-9462

Fax: (509) 267-7779

From: Michele Kahle [mailto:michelekahle@verizon.net]

Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2007 6:41 PM

To: Doug Nicholson

Čc: Andrew Heycock; Franklin.Micheal@DOl.GOV

Subject: Fw: Correspondence to Kurt Imig

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

I am forwarding you an, email sent to Kurt Imig, AMI, requesting information concerning our sons death on 7/19/07 at the Rock Creek Mine. He has no knowledge of the Minor's Bill of Rights so we are forwarding our request to you for action, along with Kurt's response.

Thank you for your assistance.

Michele Kahle

kimlamer@hotmail.com

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:26 AM
To: 'arthur@corlissfamily.org'
Subject: RE: Education

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 8:38 PM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Education

Web mail from: Mr. Arthur Corliss

address: 3611 Hollyberry Circle Anchorage AK 99507

MESSAGE:

You claimed during your campaign that you supported educational vouchers. Given the continued lack of competence and fiscal responsibility I\'ve witnessed within the Anchorage School District I\'d like to see it happen.

The state does have a constitutional obligation to fund adequate education for all its citizens. That doesn\'t mean, however, that you can let corrupt district bureaucrats name their own price for \"adequate\" (or, in other words, mediocre) education. Private education has consistently produced higher grades on national standard tests (like the SAT & ACT) for less than half what it costs the public school systems. You need to tap those realities to force the public school systems to reach a reasonably effective and cost-efficient standard.

I have a suggestion: state funds for education should be allocated on a per-student basis, with each student getting an equal amount (regionally adjusted to account for local cost of infrastructure and living). That amount should be based on market studies that include the private sector among its data points. Each school, public or private, should be able register their student head-counts and withdraw the appropriate level of funds. You should consider even letting home-schooled families withdraw a significant percentage of that as well.

This would make escaping union-mandated mediocre teaching at the highest price feasible for more families. And that, in turn, will force the unions and the public schools to become more competitive since there will be a financial impact for losing students. It will also create more choice in the private sector since more families will be able to afford those options with dollars reserved for their children specifically.

Of course, I still have a corrupt municipality also digging in my wallet to support the district, and I\'ll have to fight that battle locally. But if you would enact real change at the state level I can make sure that the district is not wasting state tax payers\' money in my family\'s name. And, I can get the real and intended benefit of those dollars, something that I don\'t believe I am now.

I should point out this simple fact (something that ASD apparently is incapable of comprehending): the money that is being wasted on the public school system *is* the tax payers\' money. The state budget is funded through realization of revenue (royalties, production taxes, and so on) from the use of resources held in the public trust. In other words, you are the steward of *our* commonly held property. It isn\'t yours, nor is the revenue derived from it yours by right.

It would be a refreshing change to see a government actually operate under that principle instead of acting as if the citizens are something to be suffered.

Perhaps a better educated populace, which would in turn grown into public servants, would make this possible, eh?

Fulfill your campaign promises. Improve the educational possibilities for all Alaskans. Make some form of the voucher system come to fruition, but do not remain beholden and captive to the public school district bureaucracies.

You claimed during your campaign that you supported educational vouchers. Given the continued lack of competence and fiscal responsibility I've witnessed within the Anchorage School District I'd like to see it happen.

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Fulfill your campaign promises. Improve the educational possibilities for all Alaskans. Make some form of the voucher system come to fruition, but do not remain beholden and captive to the public school district bureaucracies.

arthur@corlissfamily.org

PLEASE ADD TO E-NEWS

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:13 AM
To: Katz; John W (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Cc: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Stevens' Meeting Confirmed

My expectation will be that he won't have staff either.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 12:04:24

To:"Kris Perry" <kris_perry@gov.state.ak.us>,"Governor Sarah Palin" <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc:"Janice Mason" <janice_mason@gov.state.ak.us>

Subject: Stevens' Meeting Confirmed

I have just heard from Senator Stevens' office confirming a meeting = with the Governor for 10:30am, tomorrow, at the Governor's office in = Anchorage. In addition to issues the Governor may want to discuss, = Senator Stevens would like to talk about the gas pipeline and the = political situation in Alaska. His expectation is that there will be = no staff and no press.

If I can do anything further in preparation for the meeting, please = let me know. Governor, if you are willing to drop me a brief email = in the aftermath, I would be very interested in knowing how things went = and whether there is anything we should do to follow-up. Thanks. = ;

Please note that my email address has = changed. My new email address = is <mailto:jwkatz@alaskadc.org> jwkatz@alaskadc.org. = Thank you .

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:43 AM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV); Lopez; Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'
Cc: Jackson; Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Original flt was just pushed back again so there's no way to make any connection. We have to take a different airline and may get in at 2AM. My main concern is missing any of the mtgs we've scheduled for tomorrow, inlc the Fairbanks town hall mtg. I may have to stay in Anchorage tonight if we dont lv the airport agter getting our luggage around 2:30 or 3AM.

----- Original Message -----

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Cc: Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:39:17 2007

Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

I'll let Linda know. I believe Bob is talking with the troopers in NY on new flight arrangements/solutions. Please let me know if I can do anything.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:34 AM

To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

They may need a new purchase of tickets bc these flts are all messed up with weather. And i cant stay another night here or in MN, which sounds like the only other option. Pls let linda perez know - i cant miss my packed day of mtgs tomorrow inlc sen.Stevens and trip to fairbanks.

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:31:57 2007

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Wheres the gates? thirty min isnt enough if different terminals and we're even a few min late.

----- Original Message -----

From: Leschper, Beth (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:30:11 2007

Subject: Better stay on current flight

Your connection will be 30 minutes - enough time to make flight. If you change, not arrive til 2 am

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:34 AM
To: Leschper; Beth (GOV); Lopez; Thomas M (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Jackson; Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)
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Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:31:57 2007

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To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:30:11 2007

Subject: Better stay on current flight

Your connection will be 30 minutes - enough time to make flight. If you change, not arrive til 2 am

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:26 AM
To: Jackson; Karleen K (HSS)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Aces & Leadership Retreat

Thanks K. Our flts are all messed up bc of weather. Our bags are on the plane it sounds like, but we're not. So, hopefully we still get to fly out tonight but i'll probably miss the game if we even do make it in tonight. :(

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Jackson, Karleen K (HSS)" <karleen.jackson@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 08:55:40

To:ExternalEmailgsp <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc:"Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>,"Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Subject: Aces & Leadership Retreat

Governor -

Hope your NY adventure went well and you're travels home are uneventful.

FYI, I'll be at the Aces game tonight and will have my cell Privileged or, so feel free to call if you make it to the game and can't find me in the crowd (which appears to be a big one!).

Also, at tomorrow's leadership team meeting we will break for lunch from 1 - 1:30 so invite you to join us for lunch as you get to meet the crew. There will be about 17 of us there - deputy commissioners, assistant commissioners (one who will retire in Jan.), division directors, and special assistants.

I'm also looking forward to sitting down with you in the near future to brief you on H&SS issues.

Thanks for all your hard work on behalf of Alaskans!

Karleen

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:01 AM
To: Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: VECO

Janice is sched the stevens mtg, so i cc-ed her in that last email. She can let u know what the sched looks like. (It's packed, but we need to talk about veco). Hopefully after your mtg with mike we haven't backtracjed on the need to do the state's part in cleaning things up- but we'll talk about that tomorrow.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 08:52:14

To:ExternalEmailgsp <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Subject: RE: VECO

Dear Governor Palin, I don't know when your "Stevens meeting" is but I will be where you want me to be. Just have someone tell me the time and I will plan on being there. Talis

-----Original Message-----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:50 AM

To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Re: VECO

How about a mtg tomorrow after my Stevens mtg? Janice can squeeze it in.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 10 Oct 2007 11:26:31

To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Cc:"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Subject: VECO

Dear Governor Palin,

I just had a meeting with Mr. Tibbles about the VECO/FBI issues and I think a meeting with you soon would be helpful to follow up on the memo I sent you and the issues related to our options. I know you are out of town right now. If I could meet with you Friday afternoon I think it would be helpful. Maybe 2:00 pm? Talis

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:59 AM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Aces & Leadership Retreat

For sched

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Jackson, Karleen K (HSS)" <karleen.jackson@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 08:55:40

To:ExternalEmailgsp <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc:"Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>,"Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Subject: Aces & Leadership Retreat

Governor -

Hope your NY adventure went well and you're travels home are uneventful.

FYI, I'll be at the Aces game tonight and will have my cell Privileged or, so feel free to call if you make it to the game and can't find me in the crowd (which appears to be a big one!).

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I'm also looking forward to sitting down with you in the near future to brief you on H&SS issues.

Thanks for all your hard work on behalf of Alaskans!

Karleen

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:50 AM
To: Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Re: VECO

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Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 10 Oct 2007 11:26:31

To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Cc:"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Subject: VECO

Dear Governor Palin,

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Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:36 PM
To: PARNELL; S (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Re: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD,GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGHALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Irwin, Tom E (DNR)" <tom.irwin@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 19:58:10

To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Subject: RE: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD,GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGH ALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

-----Original Message-----

From: "gov.sarah@yahoo.com" <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

To: "Russ Kelly" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>; "Joe Balash" <joe.balash@alaska.gov>; "Mike Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>; "Sharon Leighow" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Sent: 10/11/07 1:07 PM

Subject: Re: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD,GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGH ALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Kelly, Russell T (GOV)" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 11:33:26

To:"Balash, Joseph R (GOV)" <joe.balash@alaska.gov>,"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>, gov.sarah@yahoo.com,"Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Subject: Fw: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD,

GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGH ALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

----- Original Message -----

From: Frank Ameduri <Frank_Ameduri@legis.state.ak.us>

To: Ameduri, Frank P (LAA)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:30:57 2007

Subject: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD, GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGH ALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

PRESS RELEASE • October 11, 2007

Alaska State Legislature

Representative Les Gara (D-Anchorage)

Web: http://gara.akdemocrats.org <http://gara.akdemocrats.org> • Contact: James Feldman • Phone: 269-0106 • Fax: 269-0109

E-mail: rep.les.gara@legis.state.ak.us • Mail: State Capitol Bldg. Room 500, Juneau, AK

99801

DEMOCRATS ASK OIL COMPANIES FOR HONEST ADVERTISING

Gara, Crawford: "Show Alaskans your profit margins"

ANCHORAGE - Today two Anchorage Democratic Representatives, Les Gara and Harry Crawford, called on the oil industry to be truthful in its current advertising campaign aimed at preventing fixes to Alaska profits-based oil tax law.

"Advertising should inform, not mislead the public," Gara said. "It would be nice if the oil companies would reveal the truth - that Exxon, Conoco Philips and British Petroleum earn higher profit margins in Alaska than almost anywhere else in the world." Gara, along with Crawford, cites Conoco Phillips' own 2006 Annual Report.

Crawford and Gara wrote to ask the major oil companies, and their industry associations (The Alaska Oil and Gas Association and The Alliance), to reveal what is shown in Conoco Phillips 2006 Annual Report: that Conoco's profit margins are higher in Alaska than they are in Africa, Russia, the Middle East, Europe, the Lower 48 and Canada. While profit margins in those areas range between 0 percent and 30 percent, Conoco's Alaska profit margins hit a staggering 35 percent in 2006.

In reviewing Conoco's profit report, Crawford noted, "If a 35 percent profit margin wasn't enough for Conoco to increase investment, why did they invest in the Middle East and Africa, where they report profit margins of just 7 percent? Just how much would Conoco want to increase investment in Alaska?"

Instead of revealing their high Alaska profits, industry association ads have aimed to create the impression that the companies aren't making enough money in Alaska, and that the flawed PPT oil tax law, adopted last legislative session, doesn't need to be fixed. Gara and Crawford, with other Democrats, asked Governor Palin to call a special session the day after the federal indictments in the current corruption scandal were issued, and Palin announced the special session a week later.

Exxon and British Petroleum, also co-leaseholders at the highly profitable Prudhoe Bay oil field – North America's largest – do not report their Alaska profits publicly. Gara and Crawford have asked those companies to share that information.

It is believed most of those profits came from Conoco's operations at highly profitable fields like Prudhoe Bay, Kuparuk and Alpine. Crawford and Gara have stated that those fields should pay a stronger tax than new, less profitable fields, and they are pushing a proposal to do that during this coming special session.

Note: The letter and Conoco's 2006 profit figures are attached for your information.

###

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:38 PM
To: Rehfeld; Karen J (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Kelly; Russell T (GOV)
Subject: Taxes

Remeber to plug into budget the reduction in business lic fees (taxes) again - and hopefully this go 'round we can lobby hard for leggies to pass this pro-small business measure. Thanks!

Unknown

From: Kelly, Russell T (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=RTKELLY]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 3:29 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'; Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Ruaro; Randall P (GOV)
Subject: Re: ACES briefings

Sen. Elton called in from his office phone. He was very appreciative. We don't know or care who else he might have had in the room. It all went pretty smoothly.

RK

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV)

Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Ruaro, Randall P (GOV); Kelly, Russell T (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 12:53:10 2007

Subject: Fw: ACES briefings

This guy is a trip.

Good job Sharon. And i'm sure no one excluded anyone from listening in or participating in the teleconf with Elton. Pls make sure i'm correct on that- i would never instruct anyone to exclude.

"Celebrity watching?". What a doof. Beth can detail for your our many hours of mtgs and interviews, and newsweek's announcement that Gov Napolitano and I will be the speakers at their inaugural West Coast conf in februrary. We didn't even stop to catch our breath on this trip- as Beth can attest to.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 10:17:35

To:junobob@att.net

Subject: RE: ACES briefings

Bob-

Senator Elton was scheduled to attend the briefing in person but was unable to get to Anchorage because of the weather. The teleconference for the Senator was arranged at the last minute. The Governor was aware that a teleconference was not going to be part of the House and Senate briefings. I am not sure she was made aware of the arrangement we made for Senator Elton.

As to your claim that the administration did everything it could to limit the public's chance hear what the administration wanted to say to the Senators- not true. I have repeatedly told you that the meetings were open to the public.

Just as an FYI - no media attended the Senate briefings either day in Anchorage. Furthermore, the only person who has complained about the open briefings has been you.

Sharon

-----Original Message-----
From: junobob@att.net [mailto:junobob@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:50 AM
To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: ACES briefings

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whatever audience was allowed in?

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Since she's off celebrity watching, I would like to confirm that she was aware of and approved the refusal to teleconference this week's briefings anywhere.

Finally, you still haven't given a reason for those decisions. Both you and Russ have only said the decision was made. I just left a reqest with Mike Tibbles' secretary for an interview to get an answer to that question.

I'm doing another special edition of Laws for the SEA tomorrow and would like any administration comments by the end of today, please.

Thanks,

Bob

Bob Tkacz

Correspondent,

Fishermen's News Magazine

Writer & Publisher,

Laws for the SEA

Office PH: 907-463-5455

Mobile: 01-907-723-4314

Email: junobob@att.net

416 Harris St., Suite 203

Juneau, AK 99801

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 1:10 PM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); 'ftb907@yahoo.com'
Subject: Fw: Personnel matter

Attachments: admin_aidea_org_20071009_182852.pdf

admin_aidea_org_20071009_18285...

----- Original Message -----

From: Galvin, Patrick S (DOR)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)

Sent: Wed Oct 10 08:59:28 2007

Subject: FW: Personnel matter

Governor and Mike,

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Let me know if there is anything I can do to help on this issue.

-Pat

From: Ron Miller [mailto:rmiller@aidea.org]

Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2007 5:18 PM

To: Board of Directors

Subject: Personnel matter

I request that the attached memorandum be kept confidential. Regards, Ron

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 1:07 PM
To: Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD,GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGH ALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

I know some hate to hear me say it, but.... the dems are right on this one too. And more power to 'em for asking for more info from the Big Three. Too bad the R's couldn't join in this request also. (NOT to beat up industry, but to get more info so more informed votes will be cast on fixing ppt!)

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Kelly, Russell T (GOV)" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 11:33:26

To:"Balash, Joseph R (GOV)" <joe.balash@alaska.gov>,"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>, gov.sarah@yahoo.com,"Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Subject: Fw: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD,

GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGH ALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

----- Original Message -----

From: Frank Ameduri <Frank_Ameduri@legis.state.ak.us>

To: Ameduri, Frank P (LAA)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:30:57 2007

Subject: PRESS RELEASE -- CRAWFORD, GARA CALL ON OIL COMPANIES TO ADMIT HIGH ALASKA PROFITS IN AD CAMPAIGN

PRESS RELEASE • October 11, 2007

Alaska State Legislature

Representative Les Gara (D-Anchorage)

Web: http://gara.akdemocrats.org <http://gara.akdemocrats.org> • Contact: James Feldman • Phone: 269-0106 • Fax: 269-0109

E-mail: rep.les.gara@legis.state.ak.us • Mail: State Capitol Bldg. Room 500, Juneau, AK 99801

DEMOCRATS ASK OIL COMPANIES FOR HONEST ADVERTISING

Gara, Crawford: "Show Alaskans your profit margins"

ANCHORAGE – Today two Anchorage Democratic Representatives, Les Gara and Harry Crawford, called on the oil industry to be truthful in its current advertising campaign aimed at preventing fixes to Alaska profits-based oil tax law.

"Advertising should inform, not mislead the public," Gara said. "It would be nice if the oil companies would reveal the truth – that Exxon, Conoco Philips and British Petroleum earn higher profit margins in Alaska than almost anywhere else in the world." Gara, along with Crawford, cites Conoco Phillips' own 2006 Annual Report.

Crawford and Gara wrote to ask the major oil companies, and their industry associations (The Alaska Oil and Gas Association and The Alliance), to reveal what is shown in Conoco Phillips 2006 Annual Report: that Conoco's profit margins are higher in Alaska than they are in Africa, Russia, the Middle East, Europe, the Lower 48 and Canada. While profit margins in those areas range between 0 percent and 30 percent, Conoco's Alaska profit margins hit a staggering 35 percent in 2006.

In reviewing Conoco's profit report, Crawford noted, "If a 35 percent profit margin wasn't enough for Conoco to increase investment, why did they invest in the Middle East and Africa, where they report profit margins of just 7 percent? Just how much would Conoco want to increase investment in Alaska?"

Instead of revealing their high Alaska profits, industry association ads have aimed to create the impression that the companies aren't making enough money in Alaska, and that the flawed PPT oil tax law, adopted last legislative session, doesn't need to be fixed. Gara and Crawford, with other Democrats, asked Governor Palin to call a special session the day after the federal indictments in the current corruption scandal were issued, and Palin announced the special session a week later.

Exxon and British Petroleum, also co-leaseholders at the highly profitable Prudhoe Bay oil field - North America's largest - do not report their Alaska profits publicly. Gara and Crawford have asked those companies to share that information.

It is believed most of those profits came from Conoco's operations at highly profitable fields like Prudhoe Bay, Kuparuk and Alpine. Crawford and Gara have stated that those fields should pay a stronger tax than new, less profitable fields, and they are pushing a proposal to do that during this coming special session.

Note: The letter and Conoco's 2006 profit figures are attached for your information.

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 12:55 PM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV)
Subject: Re: Scheduling

I'll do kenai instead od hickels.

And i'"l do the wash post interview.

Beth has additional national interviews that she can set up with you and sharon via the newsweek reporters whom i met with.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 12:39:28

To:Sarah Palin <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc:"Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>,"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Subject: Scheduling

Governor - There are a couple of scheduling items that we need to get confirmed for you.

Saturday, October 13 - After the ACES meeting from 10:30 - 12:30 p.m. - The Washington Post would like to do a 15 minute Interview with you in regards to Corruption and Pebble Mine. They would travel out to the Valley and meet directly after ACES meeting. Sharon Leighow will have briefing paper for you prepared.

Monday, October 15 - There is an ACES Town Hall meeting in Kenai from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - I have it listed as FYI on your calendar. This is the only ACES meeting that we do not have you confirmed. You can depart ANC @ 5:00 p.m. - arriving Kenai @ 5:25 p.m. You can then depart Kenai @ 8:15 p.m. - arriving ANC @ 8:40 p.m.

The other invitation that has arrived for Monday, October 15 - From Walter and Ermalee Hickel is a request for you to attend a reception on the occasion of the Arctic Energy

Summit. This will be in ANC @ Hotel Captain Cook from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. This will not be possible if you are traveling to Kenai for the ACES meeting.

Thank you, Janice

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 12:53 PM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Ruaro; Randall P (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV)
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Bob Tkacz

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Office PH: 907-463-5455

Mobile: 01-907-723-4314

Email: junobob@att.net

416 Harris St., Suite 203

Juneau, AK 99801

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 12:43 PM
To: Kreitzer; Annette E (DOA)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Re: Maritime Union negotiations

Thanks for this info Annette. I agree with your approach.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Kreitzer, Annette E (DOA)" <annette.kreitzer@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 10:44:55

To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Cc:"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Subject: Maritime Union negotiations

Governor:

I spoke with Mike T. this morning and he thought I should give you this heads up.

You'll remember in Cabinet meetings, I've mentioned how tough I anticipated these negotiations with the maritime unions to be. The Inland Boatman's Union (IBU) turned down a 1-year extension which included a 3% pay increase apparently due to not receiving $11/month/employee toward health benefits. The other two unions (MEBA & MM&P) did accept the one-year rollover.

We are now in negotiations with all three maritime unions and today I am putting on the table some pretty ugly counter offers. Ferry system employees get free passes, ostensibly on a "space available" basis. This just seems unconscionable when the system is projected to run a $90 million deficit for FY09. Commissioner von Scheben and I are working closely together to achieve savings in these contracts. Here is a link to a JNU Empire story which ran today, where von Scheben outlines difficulties with funding: http://www.juneauempire.com/stories/101107/sta_20071011013.shtml

There will be negative press about our negotiations. However, we will not be able to hold the line on spending if we don't go in tough here. I am planning on meeting with Southeast legislators October 18 and 19 when they are here for Special Session. Ivy is gathering the names of the Southeast Mayors so that I can start talking with them as well.

I also plan to meet with Cathie Roemmich of the MTAB.

I think it will be Juneau's delegation that will scream the loudest, but I don't know.

Please let me know if you want or need additional information right now.

ak

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:35 AM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Ruaro; Randall P (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Von Scheben; Leo (DOT)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV)
Subject: Re: Ketchikan Daily News - bridge

Mike- if there's anything inaccurate in here about "me" not notifying anyone, please correct it asap.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Date: Thu, 11 Oct 2007 09:51:59

To:"Ruaro, Randall P (GOV)" <randall.ruaro@alaska.gov>,"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>, gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Cc:"Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>,"Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Subject: Ketchikan Daily News - bridge

Just so you folks are aware, I have told the Ketchikan Daily News that the Governor intends to visit the community.

From: Yocom, Lauren J (GOV)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:45 AM

To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)

Subject: Ketchikan Daily News

Sharon,

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A visit past due

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Millions of dollars have been spent on the required planning and environmental impact documents.

Gov. Tony Knowles came to Ketchikan and announced the selection of the state's preferred alternative for the bridge itself.

And, after years of effort, Alaska's congressional delegation secured substantial funding to build the bridge.

Ketchikan then watched from the sidelines as the "Bridge to Nowhere" phenomenon swept through the national media and halls of Congress.

Politicians and commentators of just about every political stripe began wielding the term as sneering shorthand for government waste and out-of-control spending.

But, as even the most ardent Ketchikan opponents of the bridge can admit, most of the factually challenged pundits and pols who swing the "Bridge to Nowhere" cudgel don't know much — if anything — about Ketchikan itself.

Then again, Ketchikan and its interests are irrelevant in this national conversation. Who, outside of Ketchikan, really cares about accurately representing the community? Especially when it's so easy and such fun to trump political opponents with a knowing roll of the eyes and a caustic comment about the "Bridge to Nowhere."

Sadly, we've become accustomed to such cavalier treatment from national interests making political points at our expense over the years.

We're less familiar with what appears to be similar treatment by our own governor.

On Sept. 21, Gov. Sarah Palin announced that the bridge was no longer an option.

She didn't make the announcement here in Ketchikan.

She didn't alert local mayors that she'd made the decision.

She didn't notify Ketchikan's state representative and senator, or even the Alaska congressional delegation, apparently, that the decision was made and that an announcement was on its way.

No, the effective end of three decades' effort toward a bridge was announced in a press release launched — perhaps coincidentally — early enough in the day to make media deadlines on the East Coast.

The media pounced.

By day's end, Palin's decision to quash the "Bridge to Nowhere" was news nationwide and beyond.

The attention hasn't diminished much since then, either. Newsweek magazine, for example, has a favorable story about Palin in the current edition's special section on women leaders. The Ketchikan bridge decision is mentioned prominently.

For some pundits, Palin's decision further elevates her status as a rising political figure who's fearless in clearing entrenched political and business interests from government.

"Meet Sarah Palin, Alaska's rockstar governor," wrote commentator Patrick Ruffini, four paragraphs before noting that Palin "single-handedly killed the leading symbol of Republican spending excess in Washington: the Bridge to Nowhere."

Given how Palin made the bridge announcement, it's not difficult to believe that the intended audience — and what really mattered to the governor — wasn't the community of Ketchikan.

In that regard, the announcement was similar to the national "debate" on the bridge. Sure, the press release mentioned Ketchikan, but it wasn't really about Ketchikan.

And that's what the pundits overlook when they lionize Palin for courageously pulling the plug on Ketchikan's bridge.

The decision didn't take courage. Any pollster would say it was a slam-dunk public opinion winner anywhere but here.

She could have displayed real courage by coming to Ketchikan on Sept. 21, announcing the decision here, and explaining her rationale to the community.

She didn't.

Nor has she yet acted on the invitation by Ketchikan Gateway Borough and City of Saxman Mayor Joe Williams and City of Ketchikan Mayor Bob Weinstein to come to Ketchikan and talk with the community about the decision.

To Palin's credit, she fully intends to do so, according to Sharon Leighow, the governor's deputy press secretary.

We'll consider that a promise and we hope the governor keeps it soon.

That's not asking too much. In fact, given the magnitude of the decision, it's overdue.

Even rock stars should be willing to face the music.

Lauren Yocom

Communications Assistant

Office of Governor Sarah Palin <http://state.ak.us/>

Alaska State Capitol

907.465.4031

907.465.3533

907.321.5571

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:58 AM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV); Lopez; Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; Cockrell; Robert A (GOV)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Whats the connecting flts? They need to know that. And they haven't heard from Bob.

----- Original Message -----

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com' <fek9wnr@yahoo.com>

Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:53:31 2007

Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

I found a flight at 3:50 pm on American Airlines that would get you in to Anchorage at 11:12 p.m. We'll look into this/availability. Bob is calling the NY troopers now.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:43 AM

To: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'

Cc: Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Original flt was just pushed back again so there's no way to make any connection. We have to take a different airline and may get in at 2AM. My main concern is missing any of the mtgs we've scheduled for tomorrow, inlc the Fairbanks town hall mtg. I may have to stay in Anchorage tonight if we dont lv the airport agter getting our luggage around 2:30 or 3AM.

----- Original Message -----

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Cc: Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:39:17 2007

Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

I'll let Linda know. I believe Bob is talking with the troopers in NY on new flight arrangements/solutions. Please let me know if I can do anything.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:34 AM

To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

They may need a new purchase of tickets bc these flts are all messed up with weather. And i cant stay another night here or in MN, which sounds like the only other option. Pls let linda perez know - i cant miss my packed day of mtgs tomorrow inlc sen.Stevens and trip to fairbanks.

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:31:57 2007

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Wheres the gates? thirty min isnt enough if different terminals and we're even a few min late.

----- Original Message -----

From: Leschper, Beth (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:30:11 2007

Subject: Better stay on current flight

Your connection will be 30 minutes - enough time to make flight. If you change, not arrive til 2 am

Unknown

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:28 AM

To: 'Sarah Palin'

Cc: 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; Mason; Janice L (GOV); Cockrell; Robert A (GOV)

Subject: Room

Bob secured you a room at the Hilton downtown.

Kris

Unknown

From: Hartig, Lawrence L (DEC) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=LLHARTIG]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 6:46 PM

To: Meera Kohler; Palin; Sarah H (GOV)

Cc: Notti; Emil R (CED); craig.campbell@alaska.gov; Campbell; Craig (MVA); Monegan; Walt C (DPS); Schmidt; Joseph D (DOC); Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR); Nizich; Michael A (GOV)

Subject: RE: Ongoing Disaster in Kivalina - Need for Action

Governor,

This is the situation I described at the last cabinet meeting. You may recall I also passed out photos of the AVEC tanks that showed the proximity of the waves. I mentioned that ADEC was then working with AVEC and the community to have a plan in place with the necessary resources to move the fuel quickly if an imminent threat from a coastal storm developed. DEC did not want the risk of fuel ending up in the ocean and was prepared to access Response Fund monies if needed to do an emergency transfer of the fuel. Generally, we are required to seek reimbursement to the fund from the owner or operator of the facility addressed in the response action. There is an exception where the spill or threat of spill is due to an "Act of God."

As I also mentioned at the cabinet meeting, AVEC was pursuing a disaster declaration through the NWAB. I understand from Meera's email that this request has been transferred to the state and a meeting of the Disaster Policy Cabinet needs to be scheduled. It seems appropriate, if the DPC finds this to be an "emergency", to consider all sources of funding for moving the tanks. Obviously, AVEC is interested in finding a funding source that won't be required to seek reimbursement from AVEC.

One of the things I have asked the "Immediate Needs" workgroup of the Climate Change Sub-cabinet to prepare is a list of critical infrastructure (including fuel tanks that are in use) that are threatened by coastal erosion, melting permafrost or other consequences of climate change. This will allow for better contingency planning and hopefully avoid future situations like this.

Thanks,
Larry

From: Meera Kohler [mailto:mkohler@avec.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 2:34 PM
To: Palin, Sarah H (GOV)
Cc: Notti, Emil R (CED); craig.campbell@alaska.gov; Campbell, Craig (MVA); Monegan, Walt C (DPS); Schmidt, Joseph D (DOC); Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Galvin, Patrick S (DOR); Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Hartig, Lawrence L (DEC)
Subject: Ongoing Disaster in Kivalina - Need for Action

<<NWAB Disaster Declaration 9-25-07.pdf>>

<<Letter to Governor.doc>> <<Kivalina Emergency Transfer Plan 2007Oct9.doc>>

Dear Governor and members of the Disaster Policy Cabinet,

I apologize for the informal nature of this email, but I have authorized the commencement of an

Unknown

From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SWLEIGHOW]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:52 AM

To: Ruaro; Randall P (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'

Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)

Subject: Ketchikan Daily News - bridge

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She didn't make the announcement here in Ketchikan.
She didn't alert local mayors that she'd made the decision.
She didn't notify Ketchikan's state representative and senator, or even the Alaska congressional delegation, apparently, that the decision was made and that an announcement was on its way.
No, the effective end of three decades' effort toward a bridge was announced in a press release launched — perhaps coincidentally — early enough in the day to make media deadlines on the East Coast.
The media pounced.
By day's end, Palin's decision to quash the "Bridge to Nowhere" was news nationwide and beyond.
The attention hasn't diminished much since then, either. Newsweek magazine, for example, has a favorable story about Palin in the current edition's special section on women leaders. The Ketchikan bridge decision is mentioned prominently.
For some pundits, Palin's decision further elevates her status as a rising political figure who's fearless in clearing entrenched political and business interests from government.
"Meet Sarah Palin, Alaska's rockstar governor," wrote commentator Patrick Ruffini, four paragraphs before noting that Palin "single-handedly killed the leading symbol of Republican spending excess in Washington: the Bridge to Nowhere."
Given how Palin made the bridge announcement, it's not difficult to believe that the intended audience — and what really mattered to the governor — wasn't the community of Ketchikan.
In that regard, the announcement was similar to the national "debate" on the bridge. Sure, the press release mentioned Ketchikan, but it wasn't really about Ketchikan.
And that's what the pundits overlook when they lionize Palin for courageously pulling the plug on Ketchikan's bridge.
The decision didn't take courage. Any pollster would say it was a slam-dunk public opinion winner anywhere but here.
She could have displayed real courage by coming to Ketchikan on Sept. 21, announcing the decision here, and explaining her rationale to the community.
She didn't.
Nor has she yet acted on the invitation by Ketchikan Gateway Borough and City of Saxman Mayor Joe Williams and City of Ketchikan Mayor Bob Weinstein to come to Ketchikan and talk with the community about the decision.
To Palin's credit, she fully intends to do so, according to Sharon Leighow, the governor's deputy press secretary.
We'll consider that a promise and we hope the governor keeps it soon.
That's not asking too much. In fact, given the magnitude of the decision, it's overdue.
Even rock stars should be willing to face the music.

Lauren Yocom
Communications Assistant
Office of Governor Sarah Palin
Alaska State Capitol

907.465.4031
907.465.3533
907.321.5571

Unknown

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 5:28 PM

To: Sarah Palin; Todd

Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Fabrello; Michelle A (GOV)

Subject: Passing of Chief Rev. David Salmon

This story ran in today's news-miner, we received a call that Chief Rev. David Salmon passed away this afternoon, and was asked to inform the Governor. As soon as I find out about funeral arrangements I will pass them along. Thanks, Janice

chief diagnosed with terminal cancer

By Mary Beth Smetzer
msmetzer@newsminer.com
Published October 11, 2007

The First Traditional Chief for the Athabascan people of the Interior, the Rev. David Salmon, has been diagnosed with terminal cancer and is home in Chalkyitsik being cared for by family members.

"He is in very good spirits," his great-granddaughter Tanya Rojas said. "He says he is going to see people again in heaven and he is ready to go home."

Salmon was transported to Chalkyitsik on Wednesday afternoon via an air ambulance courtesy of Doyon Ltd. The village is located on the Black River about 45 miles northeast of Fort Yukon.

Even though Salmon suffers pain, Rojas said, "He is home now, and that is what he wanted. He said, 'I have come home to live the rest of my days.'"

The 95-year-old cherished Gwich'in elder has been first traditional chief since August 2003, following the passing of Chief Peter John of Minto. The position is not a political one and is held in high esteem.

An ordained Episcopal minister, musician and toolmaker, Salmon is well known throughout the Yukon Flats as a man of God and is noted for his work ethic and sense of humor.

Patricia Salmon said her grandfather hadn't been feeling well all summer but it wasn't until this past Monday that the family learned he had cancer that had spread throughout his body.

"He said he is ready to go whenever his ministry is over. He's ready to pass on."

Donations and telephone calls and offers of help have been coming in from all over, Patricia said, and Salmon's room was filled with an unceasing stream of visitors during his stay at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital.

"The help that we are getting is unbelievable," she said. "We're really grateful for what everybody is doing to help, especially Doyon and TCC."

Ginger Placeres, Tanana Chiefs newsletter editor, who visited Salmon at the hospital Wednesday morning described Salmon as "a pillar of strength in the midst of his visitors."

"He was still wanting to share his faith. He was talking about God and several (people) were praying with him and for him."

Salmon was slated to address the 2007 Alaska Federation of Natives Convention in Fairbanks later this month, but it's unlikely he will make the trip, his family said.

Contact staff writer Mary Beth Smetzer at 459-7546.

Unknown

From: PARNELL, S (GOV sponsored) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SRPARNELL1]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 5:20 PM

To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'

Subject: Paradigm Shift-volunteers augmenting fed and state dollars

I went to the first part of a hearing where Sen. Stevens and Sen. Landrieu of Lousiana were conducting a field hearing on erosion damage and control related to Shishmaref, Kivalina, and Newtok. In talking about federal dollars for relocation efforts, Sen. Landrieu said, "We want some kind of a new paradigm—using private sector resources in addition to federal..." "We're all struggling with how to do that."

Larry Hartig and I have been talking about this in the Village Safe Water context—as in how to marshall volunteer/nonprofit resources successfully in the villages to accelerate water/sewer improvements. We're discussing specifically how to use volunteers alongside villagers in Hooper Bay where Samaritans Purse seems to have made some positive inroads by incorporating workforce development principles in their home building project (training kids from high school in carpentry and the kids getting credit for the work). DEC's current plan is for one cluster of homes to be connected to the w/s system next summer and another cluster of homes in Hooper is scheduled for connect in 2009 or 2010 (with a final cluster in old town slated for 2012 or 13—though this batch is questionable). We're thinking on how to gather volunteer resources with the paid contractors and village labor to connect both clusters of homes in one summer construction season (2008) rather than two.

If it works as a pilot project, maybe it could be used in relocation efforts where Alaskans associated with Habitat for Humanity, for example, can voluntarily work to build new homes next to paid and volunteer village labor. Ties in with Sen. Landrieu's remarks about the feds looking for a new paradigm—code for, "We can't pay for all this as government." Just an FYI at this point.

Unknown

From: Kreitzer, Annette E (DOA) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AEKREITZER]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:45 AM

To: gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)

Subject: Maritime Union negotiations

Governor:

I spoke with Mike T. this morning and he thought I should give you this heads up.

You'll remember in Cabinet meetings, I've mentioned how tough I anticipated these negotiations with the maritime unions to be. The Inland Boatman's Union (IBU) turned down a 1-year extension which included a 3% pay increase apparently due to not receiving $11/month/employee toward health benefits. The other two unions (MEBA & MM&P) did accept the one-year rollover.

We are now in negotiations with all three maritime unions and today I am putting on the table some pretty ugly counter offers. Ferry system employees get free passes, ostensibly on a "space available" basis. This just seems unconscionable when the system is projected to run a $90 million deficit for FY09. Commissioner von Scheben and I are working closely together to achieve savings in these contracts. Here is a link to a JNU Empire story which ran today, where von Scheben outlines difficulties with funding:
http://www.juneauempire.com/stories/101107/sta_20071011013.shtml

There will be negative press about our negotiations. However, we will not be able to hold the line on spending if we don't go in tough here. I am planning on meeting with Southeast legislators October 18 and 19 when they are here for Special Session. Ivy is gathering the names of the Southeast Mayors so that I can start talking with them as well. I also plan to meet with Cathie Roemmich of the MTAB.

I think it will be Juneau's delegation that will scream the loudest, but I don't know.

Please let me know if you want or need additional information right now.
ak

Unknown

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 12:39 PM

To: Sarah Palin

Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)

Subject: Scheduling

Governor – There are a couple of scheduling items that we need to get confirmed for you.

Saturday, October 13 – After the ACES meeting from 10:30 – 12:30 p.m. – The Washington Post would like to do a 15 minute Interview with you in regards to Corruption and Pebble Mine. They would travel out to the Valley and meet directly after ACES meeting. Sharon Leighow will have briefing paper for you prepared.

Monday, October 15 – There is an ACES Town Hall meeting in Kenai from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – I have it listed as FYI on your calendar. This is the only ACES meeting that we do not have you confirmed. You can depart ANC @ 5:00 p.m. – arriving Kenai @ 5:25 p.m. You can then depart Kenai @ 8:15 p.m. – arriving ANC @ 8:40 p.m.

The other invitation that has arrived for Monday, October 15 – From Walter and Ermalee Hickel is a request for you to attend a reception on the occasion of the Arctic Energy Summit. This will be in ANC @ Hotel Captain Cook from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. This will not be possible if you are traveling to Kenai for the ACES meeting.

Thank you, Janice

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Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:54 AM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper; Beth (GOV); Lopez; Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

I found a flight at 3:50 pm on American Airlines that would get you in to Anchorage at 11:12 p.m. We'll look into this/availability. Bob is calling the NY troopers now.

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To: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'

Cc: Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

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Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:39:17 2007

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Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:06 AM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; Cockrell; Robert A (GOV)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

We just got off the phone w/Tim. It sounds like the safer option to ensure your arrival - rather than getting stuck - is the Northwest flight. The other flight would have connected in Chicago. I was just wanting to make sure that other options had been explored. Bob is going to get you a room in Anchorage. Likely at the Hilton but we'll send you an email once we know for sure.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:58 AM

To: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; Cockrell, Robert A (GOV)

Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Whats the connecting flts? They need to know that. And they haven't heard from Bob.

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To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com' <fek9wnr@yahoo.com>

Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

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By Mary Beth Smetzer
msmetzer@newsminer.com
Published October 11, 2007

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"He is in very good spirits," his great-granddaughter Tanya Rojas said. "He says he is going to see people again in heaven and he is ready to go home."

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"He said he is ready to go whenever his ministry is over. He's ready to pass on."

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"The help that we are getting is unbelievable," she said. "We're really grateful for what everybody is doing to help, especially Doyon and TCC."

Ginger Placeres, Tanana Chiefs newsletter editor, who visited Salmon at the hospital Wednesday morning described Salmon as "a pillar of strength in the midst of his visitors."

"He was still wanting to share his faith. He was talking about God and several (people) were praying with him and for him."

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Contact staff writer Mary Beth Smetzer at 459-7546.

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Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 5:41 PM

To: Sarah Palin

Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Friday 8:30 p.m. - Rabbi Michael Oblath

Governor – An update for tomorrow evening - ANC welcoming of Rabbi Michael Oblath @ 8:30 p.m. 7525 E. Northern Lights Blvd.

They will have (2) seats set aside for you when you arrive. I explained that you would arrive @ approx. 8:30-8:45 p.m. depending on flight. This will last until approx. 9:00 p.m. There are three speakers during this time – Mayor Begich; Rev. Regina Boisclair will be welcoming as Biblical Scholar; John Ross – Head of Native Culture Center – Welcome to Native Community.

They will ask you to give short welcome to Rabbi Michael Oblath. FYI: Rabbi is not married; New to Alaska since August; this will be first winter in Alaska; Avid bicyclist and hiker.

Thanks, Janice

Unknown

From: Frye, Ivy J (DOA) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=IJFRYE]

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:48 AM

To: gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Subject: Ft Rich Soldier

Gosh, how awesome! I'm glad he's home. If you go meet him, thank him for me too! ...this was in the clips this morning.

Long road to recovery: Fort Rich soldier returns

Unable to fly from Texas, Fort Richardson soldier returns home by RV

By JAMES HALPIN
jhalpin@adn.com

(Published: October 11, 2007)

Justin Tauriainen awoke in a hospital bed, unaware a bomb had exploded lethally close to him.
The explosion killed three others in his vehicle, paralyzed another. Justin was lucky.
The violent explosion had rocked his head, swelling his brain. He fractured his leg. His fingers were broken and he lost leg and arm tissue and muscle. One of his vertebra was shattered.
Now, more than 4 1/2 months after the horrific attack, Justin is finally back to his post -- and hometown -- after migrating north along the Alaska Highway in a giant Dutch Star motor home.
The trip took about two weeks, but it was necessary, grandfather Jerry Cozzen said. Justin couldn't fly. His injuries are still too severe.
Slightly more than a year after departing the town he grew up in, Justin late Wednesday afternoon reached the home he almost never saw again.
About 15 friends and family members waited for his arrival at the Muldoon overpass on the Glenn Highway, waving an American flag and a banner that read, "Welcome Home T-Bone." ...
A lot of prayers have been said, and they seem to have been answered, Jeri said.
After all, Justin's favorite book is the King James Bible.
He'll still have to cope with surviving when his friends didn't. He misses them, he said, and he misses being with his unit. He wants to stay in the Army, at least until his enlistment is up.
That might not be an option.
Multiple surgeries, a few titanium rods in his back, and a lot of physical therapy later, Justin can now, with some difficulty, get around on his own. He still needs more surgery and more therapy, but that doesn't guarantee he'll be completely healed.
"I don't know what's going to happen," Justin said. "I don't know what I'm capable of."
He's getting better, and it shows. He might never be the same as he once was.
But he's back.

Unknown

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:54 AM
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Cc: Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

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From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Cc: Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:39:17 2007

Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

I'll let Linda know. I believe Bob is talking with the troopers in NY on new flight arrangements/solutions. Please let me know if I can do anything.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:34 AM

To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

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From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:31:57 2007

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Wheres the gates? thirty min isnt enough if different terminals and we're even a few min late.

----- Original Message -----

From: Leschper, Beth (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:30:11 2007

Subject: Better stay on current flight

Your connection will be 30 minutes - enough time to make flight. If you change, not arrive til 2 am

Unknown

From:	Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]
Sent:	Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:39 AM
To:	Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper; Beth (GOV); Lopez; Thomas M (GOV)
Cc:	Jackson; Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
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From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:06 AM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; Cockrell; Robert A (GOV)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

We just got off the phone w/Tim. It sounds like the safer option to ensure your arrival - rather than getting stuck - is the Northwest flight. The other flight would have connected in Chicago. I was just wanting to make sure that other options had been explored. Bob is going to get you a room in Anchorage. Likely at the Hilton but we'll send you an email once we know for sure.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:58 AM

To: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; Cockrell, Robert A (GOV)

Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

Whats the connecting flts? They need to know that. And they haven't heard from Bob.

----- Original Message -----

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com' <fek9wnr@yahoo.com>

Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:53:31 2007

Subject: RE: Better stay on current flight

I found a flight at 3:50 pm on American Airlines that would get you in to Anchorage at 11:12 p.m. We'll look into this/availability. Bob is calling the NY troopers now.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 9:43 AM

To: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'

Cc: Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Subject: Re: Better stay on current flight

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Sent: Thu Oct 11 09:30:11 2007

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Unknown

From: Leschper, Beth (GOV) [beth.leschper@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 5:29 PM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); ExternalEmailgsp
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Irwin; Tom E (DNR)
Subject: Arctic Summit Speech

Thank you, Governor Hickel. (He is on the program before you.)

We are honored and privileged to host this Arctic Energy Summit. I want to thank all of you for traveling from near – and from very far – to join us here in Alaska. I look forward to our discussion of the critically important topics that will be covered over the next three days.

I would like to extend sincere and hearty Alaskan welcome to the political, business and interest group leaders in attendance.

(Can delete this section in red below based on what Gov. Hickel says).

A special welcome to:

- U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski
- The Honorable Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, President of Iceland (pronounced *Oh-la-fur Rag-nar Grim-son*)
- Daniel Sullivan, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State
- Dr. Evgeny Velikhov, President of the Kurchatov Institute in Moscow (pronounced *yev-ghen-ee vel-ee-kov*)
- Julian Evans, British Consul General
- Patricia Cochran, Inuit Circumpolar Council Chair
- Dr. Dan Arvizu, Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (pronounced *R-vih-zoo*)
- Bud Fackrell, Senior VP BP Exploration-Alaska
- James Hemsath, Senior Fellow for Energy, Institute of the North

I wish to thank the international sponsor of this event – the U.S. State Department. And the platinum sponsor – BP.

I also want to thank the eight-nation Arctic Council for organizing the summit, and the Anchorage-based Institute of the North for hosting it.

(pause)

This is only the fourth time over the past 125 years that scientists from around the world are banding together to organize scientific and exploration programs concentrated in the Polar Regions.

Each Polar Year has been a hallmark of international cooperation in science achievement – from the first polar year in 1882 that included research at Point Barrow – to the 1932 research that established 40 permanent Arctic research stations – to the

1957 research that confirmed continental drift and discovered the Van Allen Radiation Belt encircling the Earth.

I expect this year will also produce some impressive results from the more than 200 projects that 60 nations are conducting in the Arctic and the Antarctic. These projects will include an incredible range of physical, biological and social research topics. What a meaningful and necessary endeavor as we strive to further and deepen our knowledge of progressive science in polar research.

I know we will look forward to reviewing the data developed in this 2007-2008 Polar Year, and using this information as we make energy-related decisions in an informed and proactive manner.

(pause)

From the Alaska perspective, I would like to talk first about extractive energy. It should come as no surprise to anybody here that Alaska views its God-given endowment of oil and gas resources as critical to the long-term energy security of the United States. Oil and gas will continue to provide a significant portion of our energy needs over the coming decades.

I was honored three weeks ago today to have been named Chair of the 37-state Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission. The IOGCC promotes the conservation and efficient recovery of the nation's oil and natural gas resources while protecting health, safety and the environment.

I discussed openly with the IOGCC that Alaska will play an increasingly important role in oil and gas production within the United States. Alaska currently holds reserves of 37 trillion cubic feet of gas and 6.3 billion barrels of oil.

This is but a *fraction* of the undiscovered, technically recoverable resources; more than 200 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, and 46 billion barrels of oil. These numbers do not include unconventional resources such as gas hydrates and heavy oil. As this event's brochure points out – "The Arctic is home to more than 25% of the planet's undiscovered reserves of oil and natural gas."

(pause)

It is no secret that the circum Arctic region is one of the last frontiers for oil and gas reserves. Our review of energy policy must always include consideration of the environmental, socio-economic and sustainability impacts of these energy projects in the Arctic region. New, more efficient and environmentally sensitive extraction technologies will play an increasingly important role in the development of these vast resources.

Alaska is underway with a viable plan to construct a natural gas pipeline to transport North Slope natural gas to domestic and foreign markets.

Why is this such good news? Natural gas is the cleanest of all fossil fuels, and will help bridge our nation's transition to increased reliance on renewable energy sources. A natural gas pipeline can easily use many existing oil pipeline corridors, infrastructure and roads. This reduces impacts on sensitive Arctic environments by minimizing the footprint. Alaska is deeply committed to progress on building a natural gas pipeline.

Alaska recently enacted legislation that has commenced a competitive process for qualified applicants to propose a pipeline plan. To the best proposal, Alaska will contribute $500 million in state matching funds.

While we cannot diminish its importance, the natural gas pipeline is but one of the extractive energy efforts we are pursuing. Alaska will continue to foster a healthy and cooperative climate for oil development, both with existing producers and new exploration. We will facilitate the commercialization of these reserves, but will do so in a responsible and sensitive a manner. This Arctic Energy Summit, and the studies it will spurn, will assist us in that mission.

(pause)

I'd also like briefly to discuss renewable sources of energy. I believe that renewable energy – particularly when coupled with techniques such as conservation, increased efficiency, and carbon capture and storage – is one of the great emerging success stories of the 21st century for the Circum Arctic. Continued development of alternate and renewable sources will be crucial to maintaining a viable and sustainable energy portfolio.

Alaska has a leadership role in defining and testing new technologies in oftentimes harsh and extreme environments. Wind, hydro, tidal, biomass, solar, and geothermal will all play increasing roles in defining how we meet the challenge of providing affordable and sustainable energy to all areas of the Arctic.

For example, we are proposing Alaska's first geothermal lease sale in more than 20 years, offering more than 36,000 acres near Mount Spurr, are receiving tremendous interest in that sale.

No one energy source will suffice, nor is available in all areas. Many areas across the Arctic are remote with harsh climactic conditions. As part of my emerging Energy Policy, Alaska's Department of Natural Resources and Energy Authority are developing a comprehensive database of all energy related information across the state. This information will provide a single, web-based source of data for planners and local governments to assess viable alternatives and make reasonable choices in their energy future.

I also recently created Alaska's first sub-cabinet to prepare a climate change strategy for the state. There is no doubt that Alaska's climate is changing. And we are already seeing the effects – coastal erosion, thawing permafrost, retreating sea ice and record forest fires that affect our communities and our infrastructure. These are changes we must prepare for now.

I am proud of the cutting edge work being done at the University. Alaska has top-notch scientists working on research and models that will inform and guide climate change decisions.

(pause)

We are ALL here because we have some interest in the development of energy sources – and the manner in which that occurs. I am confident that our energy development efforts will be guided, in no small part, by the science produced in this 2007- 2008 Polar Year.

Armed with knowledge, we can facilitate a sophisticated dialogue, ultimately making smart and informed energy-related decisions, maximizing recovery of resources while minimizing

environmental impacts.

I thank you again, and eagerly anticipate the information that will be shared during this Arctic Energy Summit and the knowledge that the Polar Year studies will generate.

Beth Leschper
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Governor
State of Alaska
907-465-3443
907-723-1321